

COUNTRY USSR (Chkalov Oblast)

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SUBJECT Kirov Plant for Tractor and Tank Parts in Chkalov

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1. The Kirov Plant for Tractor and Tank Parts was in Chkalov ( $51^{\circ}56'N/55^{\circ}08'E$ ), about 300 meters west of the main highway which crosses the Orsk ( $51^{\circ}13'N/58^{\circ}36'E$ ) - Kuybyshev ( $53^{\circ}42'N/50^{\circ}09'E$ ) railroad line. Spur tracks connected the plant with the Orsk Kuybyshev railroad line. The plant comprised a foundry, a cleaning shop, a lathe shop, a drilling shop, a milling shop, a shop doing electric welding and annealing work, a storage place for shells, and a carpentry shop. After the war the foundry was enlarged by one-third of its former size. Power was supplied from Chkalov.

During the war the plant produced shells, about 1.20 meters long and 250 mm in diameter. The shells stored in the plant in 1943 were melted as scrap. After the war the plant mainly produced pieces called "pistons". About 2,400 such pieces were allegedly produced daily and then mounted into eight cylinder tank engines. Locomotive wheels, bushings, stove plates for ranges, and meat grinders were also produced. Shipments of iron scrap, lead bars and red brass scrap were sent to the plant by rail. Outgoing rail shipments comprised bushings packed in boxes, and the so-called pistons, stove plates and locomotive wheels all of which were unpacked. The plant employed a total of about 2,000 men. Work was done in three shifts.

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25X1 \* [redacted] Comment. For location of the plant, see Annex 1. This plant is the "Traktordetali imeni Kirova". The aircraft plant is not in the southern part of the town as indicated on the sketch, but is rather in the northern part. It is therefore possible that the Kirov plant is north and not south of the railroad line. According to wartime records the prewar production of the plant comprised pistons, cylinder casings, chains, axles and connecting rod bearings for Machine Tractor Stations (MTS). Later the plant was converted to the production of mortar ammunition and tank tracks. According to the present report the production of ammunition has apparently been suspended, while the production of tractor and tank parts is continued.

25X1 \* [redacted] Comment. For layout of the plant see Annex 2.

25X1 \* [redacted] Comment. [redacted] sketch of the so-called pistons see Annex 3.

\* cast iron bushing is depicted in Annex 4.

Annexes: Sketches.

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